

988 Franquette Avenue
San Jose, California 95125
May 8, 1972

Mr. Ted Hansen
1191 Noche Buena, Apt. J
Seaside, California 93955

Dear Mr. Hansen:

Mrs. Minnie Hall, a long time friend, suggested that I write to you for information on Mrs. Sarah Winchester. Minnie said you and she grew up together, and as children sometimes played in Mrs. Winchester's yard, and remember seeing her.

As a long time resident of San Jose I am familiar with the popular story of her building program being inspired by her belief in spiritualism.

Off and on through the years serious researchers into Mrs. Winchester's story have convinced many people that she was a very intelligent woman, and that these stories about her are a lot of rubbish to promote the Mystery House. I, too, am trying to find all the information I can to prove that she was a fine and generous person, which she was. According to her attorney she made an anonymous gift of \$500,000 toward a hospital in New Haven, Connecticut. Mr. Ralph Rambo said she often gave large boxes of clothes to the poor in this area.

Sometime in the near future I and a friend who is also interested would like to visit you and talk about what we know about Mrs. Winchester. Practically any day in the weeks of May 22 and May 29 would be convenient for us.

Sincerely,

Helen Arbuckle

(Mrs.) Helen Arbuckle

Seaside, Ca.
10 May 1972

Mrs. Clyde Arbuckle
988 Franquette Avenue
San Jose, Ca., 95125

Dear Mrs. Arbuckle:

In reference to your letter of 8 May 1972.

For several years it has been my personal policy not to grant any interviews or to hold any discussions concerning Mrs. Winchester.

It is nearly fifty years since Mrs. Winchester's death and the many stories ~~and~~ (many which were published long before her death) have become so popular that any attempt to refute these stories is more or less futile. Mr. Rarab's small ~~publication~~ ^{publication} is an example.

It is noted that Mrs. Winchester, ^{while alive} ~~during~~, made no denial of these fantastic published stories, ~~in fact I believe she did quite a laugh in reading them.~~ (nor did her relatives after her death.) In fact I believe Mrs. Winchester found these stories quite humorous, and she cared less what the general public thought of her.

Sincerely,